

University. It is developing in complete isolation from any other lac cell, and is following the summer generation life cycle (i.e., Oct./Nov. 1969—May/June 1970).

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### 23. OCCURRENCE OF *MELANAGROMYZA OBTUSA* (MALLOCH) ON BHINDI

The pod fly, *Melanagromyza obtusa* (Malloch) has been recorded as a serious pest of *Cajanus indicus*, "cajan", (Hindi-Arhar) in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Orissa by Pradhan (1969)<sup>1</sup>. So far no host plants other than *Cajanus indicus* were recorded. However, the authors have noted the incidence of *Melanagromyza obtusa* on *Hibiscus esculentus* (Hindi-Bhindi) at Raipur in Madhya Pradesh.

During the course of observation in the month of April, 1970, the attack was noted on leaf pedicels of Bhindi plants. The infested leaves were found dried and dropping down. The maggots bored the leaf pedicels (stalks) which consequently resulted in drying of leaves. While recording the incidence of pest in the field, 30 per cent plants were found attacked by this pest. There were 1 to 3 larvae per pedicel.

In the course of rearing work, it was found that 17.4 per cent of the pupae were parasitised by *Eurytoma* sp.

This is the first report of the incidence of *Melanagromyza obtusa* (Malloch) on *Hibiscus esculentus* in Madhya Pradesh.

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<sup>1</sup> PRADHAN, S. (1969): Insect pests of Crops. National Book Trust, India, Delhi. pp. 71.